

LAW OFFICES  
**CATALANO & PLACHE, PLLC**3221 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20007Telephone (202) 338-3200  
Facsimile (202) 338-1700**ORIGINAL**

April 13, 2004

**RECEIVED**

APR 13 2004

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Re: ***Ex Parte Notice***, Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service;  
CC Docket No. 96-45

Nextel Partners, Inc. Petitions for Designation as an Eligible  
Telecommunications Carrier

Dear Secretary Dortch:

Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Federal Communications Commission's ("Commission's") Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206, this letter provides notice that on April 12 and 13, 2004, Donald J. Manning, Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel of Nextel Partners, Inc. ("Nextel Partners"), and Albert J. Catalano of Catalano & Plache, PLLC, Counsel for Nextel Partners, Inc., met with certain FCC Commissioners, officials and staff to discuss issues pertaining to Nextel Partners' petitions for eligible telecommunications carrier ("ETC") status currently pending before the Commission.

On April 12, 2004 Messrs. Manning and Catalano met with Commissioner Kevin J. Martin and Daniel Gonzalez, his Senior Legal Advisor. On April 13, 2004, Messrs. Manning and Catalano met with (1) William Maher, Chief of the Wireline Competition Bureau, and his staff, Tom Buckley, Carol Matthey, Anita Cheng and Vickie Robinson; (2) Jessica Rosenworcel, Competition and Universal Service Legal Advisor to Commissioner Michael J. Copps; (3) Matthew Brill, Senior Legal Advisor to Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy; and (4) Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein and his Legal Advisor Scott Bergmann.

In each of these meetings, Messrs. Manning and Catalano, on behalf of Nextel Partners, presented to the above-referenced Commission officials the content of the March 24, 2004 filings supplementing Nextel Partners' ETC petitions in the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, New York, Pennsylvania, Tennessee and Virginia. Nextel Partners also inquired about the procedural status of the pending ETC petitions and urged Commission officials to complete processing of the petitions as expeditiously as possible.

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Page Two

An original and two copies of this letter are being filed with the Secretary's Office. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 338-3200.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Albert J. Catalano". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Albert J. Catalano  
Counsel for Nextel Partners, Inc.

cc: Commissioner Kevin J. Martin  
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein  
William Maher  
Daniel Gonzalez  
Matthew Brill  
Jessica Rosenworcel